

Message Text

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54

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 SPC-03

AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10

NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /237 W

----- 016820

R 181820Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5901

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY CONTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PORT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 5982

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, XA, EEC

SUBJ: EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ASSOCIATED AND COMMONWEALTH
ASSOCIABLE STATES: OPENING SESSION OF NEGOTIATIONS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 4255

1. SUMMARY. EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ASSOCIATED AND THE
COMMONWELATH ASSOCIABLE STATES OPENED ON OCTOBER 17 THE ONLY
ITEM ON THE AGENDA WAS A SPEECH BY EC COUNCIL PRESIDENT NORGAARD.
REFLECTING CONTINUED DISAGREEMENT AMONG THE MEMBER STATES,
NORGAARD'S REMARKS WENT LITTLE BEYOND HIS STATEMENT AT THE
PRENEGOTIATING CONFERENCE IN JULY (SEE REFTEL). THE ASSOCIATED
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AND ASSOCIABLE STATES WILL RESPOND TO THE NORGAARD SPEECH ON
OCTOBER 18. END SUMMARY.

2. EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ASSOCIATED AND COMMONWEALTH
ASSOCIABLE STATES FORMALLY OPENED WITH A MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEET-
ING ON OCTOBER 17. IN ADDITION TO THE COUNTRIES WHICH PARTICIPATED
IN THE PRE-NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE IN JULY THE BAHAMAS JOINED
THE CARIBBEAN GROUP AND, AT THE LAST MINUTE, GUINEA JOINED THE

OTHER AFRICANS.

3. THE OPENING SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO A SPEECH BY THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE EC COUNCIL, DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER NORGAARD. NORGAARD'S REMARKS WERE ESSENTIALLY A REPLAY OF THOSE HE MADE AT THE PRENEGOTIATING CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS IN LATE JULY (REFTEL). HE REPEATED THE COMMUNITY'S DESIRE TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION FORMULA DESCRIBED IN PROTOCOL 22 OF THE ACCESSION TREATY. OTHER FORMS OF RELATIONSHIP ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SECOND AND THIRD FORMULAS DESCRIBED IN PROTOCOL 22, IF INDIVIDUAL OR GROUPS OF COUNTRIES SEEK THEM. NORGAARD ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DIFFERENCES OF OPINION REMAIN BETWEEN THE MEMBER STATES ON CERTAIN KEY ELEMENTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS -- SPECIFICALLY THE TRADING AND SPECIAL COMMODITIES ARRANGEMENTS.

4. ON THE TRADING ARRANGEMENTS HE AGAIN STRESSED THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD HAVE A CONTRACTUAL BASIS TO ASSURE STABILITY AND TO AVOID PROBLEMS IN THE GATT WITH THIRD COUNTRIES. THE ASSOCIATES WERE OFFERED FREE ENTRY FROM THE OUTSET FOR MOST OF THEIR PRODUCTS INTO THE COMMUNITY WITH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS PARTICULARLY THOSE SUBJECT TO THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. THESE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS IN GENERAL WOULD PROVIDE ASSOCIATES WITH SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE TERMS THAN THOSE APPLICABLE TO THIRD COUNTRIES. NORGAARD STATED THAT THE COMMUNITY SOUGHT MFN TREATMENT FOR ITSELF IN THE MARKETS OF ASSOCIATED STATES EXCEPT WHERE RELATIONS BETWEEN ASSOCIATED STATES AND OTHER LDC'S ARE INVOLVED. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT YET WORKED OUT ANY DEFINITIVE IDEAS ON "OTHER ASPECTS OF THE TRADING ARRANGEMENTS" (READ "TRADE RECIPROCITY") AND WOULD RETURN TO THIS SUBJECT AT A LATER DATE.

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5. WITH REGARD TO SPECIAL COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS, NORGAARD SAID EVEN LESS. HE EXPRESSED THE WILLINGNESS OF THE COMMUNITY TO CONSIDER MEANS OF REDUCING THE CONSEQUENCES OF VARIATIONS IN EXPORT RECEIPTS OF COUNTRIES DEPENDENT UPON RAW MATERIAL EXPORTS -- PARTICULARLY SUGAR. HE SUGGESTED THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH AN EXPORT RECEIPT STABILIZATION SYSTEM (AS PROPOSED EARLIER BY THE EC COMMISSION) OR BY OTHER MEANS.

6. NORGAARD MENTIONED FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN VERY GENERAL TERMS. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS OF THIS COOPERATION SHOULD BE TOWARD PROVIDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ENCOURAGING REGIONAL COOPERATION AMONG THE FUTURE ASSOCIATED STATES, AND REDUCING THE HIGH LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THESE COUNTRIES.

7. NORGAARD BRIEFLY MENTIONED INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS
STATING THAT THE EC IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF ASSOCIATION, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE
EXPERIENCE ACQUIRED UNDER THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION AND ANY IDEAS
THAT MIGHT BE PRESENTED DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS BY FUTURE
ASSOCIATES. FOLLOWING NORGAARD'S SPEECH, THE CONFERENCE ADJOURNED
FOR THE DAY. THE ASSOCIATED AND THE ASSOCIABLE STATES WILL
PRESENT THEIR RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNITY'S
PRESENTATION ON OCTOBER 18.GREENWALD

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